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UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 03 ATHENS 000288

SIPDIS

FOR NASA/OER TIMOTHY TAWNEY

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [TSPA](#) [OTRA](#) [GR](#) [CTRYCLR](#)

SUBJECT: COUNTRY CLEARANCE AND THREAT ASSESSMENT FOR E

REF: STATE 15766

1. Embassy warmly welcomes and grants country clearance for the visit of NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC) Official, Epaminondas Stas
2. Per reftel no Embassy assistance is requested
3. Pursuant to State 66580 dated March 25, 2004, country clearance for any person on TDY for 30 days or more is granted contingent on complet
4. It is important that all visitors carefully read the information and instructions provided below. Post wants to ensure the best possible
5. Early morning check-in: For those coming from Washington, D.C., often on the early morning Delta flight arriving at 1005, please note the
6. Arrivals: We expect to be able to provide transportation for official visitors at the Deputy Assistant Secretary level and above upon arr
7. Documents required: Diplomatic and official passport holders must have Greek diplomatic visas, a valid Schengen visa or diplomatic ID frc
8. Embassy access: Embassy Athens has installed a new identification badging system, which requires that all Department of State employees b
9. Regional Medical Office: The Health Unit at the Embassy is fully staffed. A State Department medical clearance is required by all employ
10. Currency: Greece is a member of the European Monetary Union, and the Euro is the currency of the country. Accommodation exchange is avai
11. Office space/laptops/mobile phones: Office space in both classified and unclassified areas is extremely limited. For those employees pl
12. Presidential Directive - Trafficking in Persons: All TDY personnel are reminded that President Bush has signed a National Security Presi
13. Security information:
  - A. Embassy Athens is designated "critical" for indigenous terrorism. In the past, local Greek terrorist groups have targeted prominent Greek
  - B. Over the past year the U.S. Embassy has experienced numerous bomb threats, protest marches, and anti-U.S. demonstrations. These protests
  - C. Crime is rated "medium" in Greece. For TDY visitors, pick-pocketing and purse snatching are the most common crimes. Taxis are generally
  - D. Traffic in Greek urban areas, especially Athens and Thessaloniki, is chaotic. Greece leads the European Union in traffic fatalities. Ros